Impact of Gulf crisis on the availability of Petroleum Products

*36. SHRI J. P. JAVALI:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the impact of Gulf crisis on the availability of petroleum products in India;

(b) what standby arrangements have been made and contingency plans chalked out for the consumers, especially the farmers, for supply of diesel during the Gulf war crisis; and

(c) what is its impact on agriculture, transport, industry, trade and commerce and also on power generation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The Gulf crisis which began in August 1990 resulted in disruption of supplies of crude oil and petroleum products from Iraq and Kuwait. Price in the international market also became very high causing strain on the foreign exchange resources of the country.

(b) Steps taken to meet the situation arising due to Gulf War include (i) Attempts to diversify the sources of import of oil and products (ii) contracting of products from non-Gulf sources, (iii) building up of inventories of crude oil and products, (iv) constant monitoring of imports and availability/distribution of products etc. Instructions have been issued to the oil companies to accord priority for meeting the diesel requirements of the agricultural sector in consultation with the State Governments. State Governments have been given flexibility to increase diesel supplies to retail outlets in agricultural belts wherever required but this is to be matched by reduced supplies to non-agricultural belts. Some States have introduced a permit system to ensure that requirements of the agriculture sector are met on priority. Special releases of diesel have also been made in November, 1990 and February, 1991 to meet additional requirement arising due to agricultural operations.

(c) The Gulf crisis is a national problem and the burden has to be borne by all sectors of the economy. The effort of the Govt. has been to try and minimise the adverse impact on industrial and agricultural production.

Requirement and Production of Crude Oil in the Country

*37. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total requirement of crude oil in the country at present;

(b) what portion of it is being met through domestic supplies; and

(c) what is the estimated quantity of crude oil proposed to be imported during the current year to meet the requirement and also the estimated expenditure thereon along with the names of the countries from which it is to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The total requirement of crude oil in the country for processing for the year 1990-91 is estimated at 51.69 MMT.

(b) The estimated availability of net indigenous crude for processing for the current year is 31.51 MMT.

(c) Estimated quantity of crude oil to be imported during 1990-91 is about